



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

JUL 19 2016

The Honorable John P. Sarbanes
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Sarbanes:

Thank you for your May 2, 2016 letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on behalf of your constituent (b) (6) regarding sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions from the Brandon Shores and Herbert A. Wagner electric generating facilities, collectively known as Raven Power Fort Smallwood, LLC.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) is the delegated permitting authority and issued Raven Power Fort Smallwood, LLC a permit in accordance with 40 CFR Part 70 in December 2012 (Permit Number 24-003-00468). The permit allows Raven Power to comply either with the individual SO₂ limits for each coal fired unit at the Brandon Shores and Herbert A. Wagner facilities or to comply with a system-wide SO₂ limit. Currently, we understand that Raven Power Fort Smallwood, LLC complies with its SO₂ limit in accordance with the system-wide provision.

Reducing levels of SO₂ pollution is an important part of EPA's commitment to a clean and healthy environment. On June 3, 2010, EPA strengthened the health-based or "primary" National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for SO₂ to a one-hour standard at a level of 75 parts per billion. Currently, EPA is in the process of designating portions of Maryland under the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS. On June 30, 2016, EPA designated portions of Anne Arundel County (within which the Fort Smallwood complex is located) and Baltimore County in Maryland as nonattainment, and Baltimore City, Maryland as unclassifiable/attainment for the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS. All remaining areas in Maryland will be designated either by December 31, 2017 or December 31, 2020. The State of Maryland will develop and submit a plan to EPA detailing how the state will decrease sulfur dioxide pollution in the area so that it meets the sulfur dioxide standard; this will have a beneficial effect on Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties' air quality, including that of the communities surrounding the Fort Smallwood complex. For additional information regarding designations under the SO₂ standard, please visit our website at: <https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations>. EPA has also drafted a Technical Support Document (TSD), which further explains the NAAQS designation process for Maryland, and can be found at: http://www3.epa.gov/airquality/sulfurdioxide/designations/round2/03_MD_tsd.pdf.



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or have your staff contact Mrs. Linda Miller, EPA's Maryland Liaison, at 215-814-2068.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shawn M. Garvin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Shawn M. Garvin
Regional Administrator